Delaware Libraries Launch Library Cards for Children

It's never too early to read or be read to. And to help build the reading, learning, and library habit, Delaware's First Lady, Tracey Quillen Carney, announced the My First Delaware Library Card and the kids Super Library Card this summer. These new library cards target babies, toddlers, and preschoolers (birth to 5 years old) and school age children (6 to 12).

The new cards are designed to encourage independent reading and book selection and parent/caregiver interaction with children, reading aloud together and talking about book choices and children's interests. "Reading aloud and talking with babies and children builds skills in communication, listening, memory, and language development — skills that correlate with so many good outcomes later in life, including high-school graduation," **First Lady Tracey Quillen Carney** said.

The My First Delaware Library Card features a baby version of Delaware's state bird, the Blue Hen. And the <u>Super Library Card</u> features superhero children. Cards are currently being rolled out and they will be available at all public libraries by the end of September.

A tracker card comes with each of the new library cards to help develop the library habit. Get your tracker card stamped at every library visit and after 10 visits receive a prize! My First Delaware Library Card members will receive a growth chart after 10 visits; Super Library Card members will receive super hero zipper pulls.

Frequent, habitual use of the new library cards will help children "unleash super powers"! "The library habit is about

raising readers, as well as parent-child engagement and access to other services that support strong and healthy families," said **State Librarian Dr. Annie Norman**.

Both cards are free for any child living in Delaware. To register, the parent or guardian should bring their child to their local library and present a photo I.D. For more information visit <u>delawarelibraries.org/kidscards</u>



About:

The <u>Delaware Division of Libraries</u>, a state agency dedicated to unleashing the potential in all Delawareans in partnership with <u>Delaware Libraries</u>, offers free access to the online catalog (delawarelibraries.org); Wi-Fi; computers/internet; eBooks; programs/workshops; community partnerships; and more.